

THESE KIND OF WORDS HELP

Portland Praises the Rules of Our Local Lobstermen's Association

Says the Portland Express and Advertiser editorially:

"The Cape Ann Lobstermen's Association has kindly sent us a copy of its by-laws. Whether the organization is a new one we have no present means of knowing but looking over the little pamphlet it is not difficult to see that its personnel is made up of honest, law-abiding fishermen who possess good hard common sense. Among the rules of the association may be mentioned these: 'No member shall pull any lobster traps during the time between one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise. No member shall make any incriminating or unjust statements against a brother member unless he is reasonably sure of the proof of such statements. No member shall violate the laws pertaining to lobsters or the lobster fishery in any way or manner. It shall be the duty of every member to keep a constant watch of his neighboring fishermen, thereby assisting in carrying out the principles for which this association was formed. Should any member find that a brother member is violating the laws in any way it shall be his duty to make complaint to the proper authorities, and it shall be his duty to lend any and all assistance that lies in his power, that the violator may be prosecuted and brought to justice. In this way alone can the interests of the members be safe-guarded.'"

A note from the sender of the pamphlet, John F. Lawson, Bearskin Neck, Rockport, Mass., states that since the by-laws were printed the association held a meeting and by a unanimous vote agreed to throw back in the water all seed lobsters when caught. A few years ago a Maine Lobsterman's Association attracted quite a good deal of attention. But our 2500 miles of coast affords so many opportunities and embraces so very many fishing communities made up of people of widely-divergent views as to the justice or wisdom of Maine's lobster law that it was not an unqualified success. One section of coast might absolutely live up to the letter of the law, while 25 miles east or west might exist a hotbed of "short" lobster pirates.

Casco Bay may be cited as an example typical of the whole coast. There are some sections of it where a "short" lobster cannot be bought for love nor money, and there are others where one may secure all he desires so long as his money lasts and when that is gone it is not unlikely he might secure a few as a gift. Around Orrs Island, for instance, the law is very generally observed. One fisherman related a few days ago that he had thrown back into the water so many times one short lobster with a par-

ticularly noticeable protuberance on the shell, that he had come to regard him as an old friend. To a man the fishermen throw back into the ocean, as do the Cape Cod lobstermen, the seed lobsters. In a majority of instances they prefer to do this rather than save them for the fish hatchery collectors, feeling that the work of Dame Nature cannot be improved upon by even the modern methods of propagation at Boothbay Harbor.

FISH RECEIPTS FOR NOVEMBER

The November statistical bulletin by the Board of Trade shows a total of 11,637,829 pounds of fresh and salt fish landed here during the month as compared with 8,822,194 pounds for the corresponding week of 1912. The large increase is due to the imports of Nova Scotia salt fish nearly 5,000,000 pounds alone being foreign product.

The table of landings and comparison is as follows:

	Pounds. 1913.	Pounds. 1912.
Salt cod	*6,389,700	3,386,835
Fresh cod	383,063	420,005
Halibut	123,318	77,653
Fresh had-dock ...	41,375	
Salt had-dock ..	28,557	
	69,932	123,430
F r e s h h a k e	383,996	
Salt hake	58,943	
	342,939	763,909
F r e s h cusk ...	91,712	
Salt cusk	14,210	
	105,922	96,737
Fresh pollock ...	4,181,330	
Salt pollock ...	35,940	
	4,217,320	3,952,305
Flitches	5,635	1,320
Total	11,637,829	8,822,194

Fresh mackerel	110	115
Salt mackerel	685	228
Fresh herring	700	1200
Salt herring	5463	1363

Cured fish

*Of this quantity 4,965,004 lbs. were not the product of American fisheries.

PUTS HALIBUT ABOVE CODFISH

In a lecture under the general subject, "Preparation of Foods," Miss Anna Barrows, of Columbia University, recently addressed a Brooklyn audience on the food values of hal-

but. The use of halibut was advised because, though higher in price than some varieties, there is less refuse, and, according to Miss Barrows it is more substantial than the haddock or cod and thus a better substitute for meat. It is practically always in the market.

"According to figures estimating this city's annual food bill," Miss Barrows said, "from a report made by the New York State Food Investigating Committee, only 150 million pounds of fish are consumed, while for meats the figures indicate 880 millions of pounds. The meats cost twice as much per pound as the fish. Here, then, is one place to lower the cost of living."

WOULD SHIFT GRAVES WHISTLER

Shipping interests are strongly in favor of changing the whistling buoy on the northeast Graves to a combination gas and whistle. A petition is being circulated and signed by pilots, captains and vessel owners, asking the government to make the change. It is pointed out that gas buoy at that point would be invaluable to mariners making port on dark and stormy nights. The trans-Atlantic steamship lines are also strongly in favor of the change.

The steamer Onondago, which ran aground in the St. Johns River while leaving Jacksonville last week for this port, was floated Monday after lightering 500 tons of her cargo. She rested in the mud and sustained no damage. She reloaded her cargo yesterday and resumed her passage to Boston. No survey was held.

Salt Mackerel Imports.

Supplies of domestic mackerel are rather light, but there appears to be enough fish available to meet requirements, and prices are steady, says the Fishing Gazette. Cape Shore, 115-120 to barrel, is a little firmer.

Imported mackerel is not getting much attention. Stocks of Norway mackerel are not large, however, and a good jobbing demand is anticipated after the holiday season is over. The market on Norways is steady, while Irish are said to be rather easy. Prices in Norway are very high now, and few, if any, sales have been made from first hands within the past six weeks.

Dingle Ireland, Dec. 6.—Practically no mackerel were cured here this week. The weather has been stormy. Liverpool, Dec. 6.—Shipments this week: To Boston, 260 bbls.; to New York, 18 bbls.; to Philadelphia, 418 bbls.; to Baltimore, 220 bbls.; to New Orleans, 200 bbls. Total shipments to date, 1913 Irish autumn, 9343 bbls.

Liverpool, Dec. 13.—Fishing ordinary. Shipments this week: To Boston, 55 bbls.; to all other ports, 50 bbls. Court, 350-400 to a packed barrel.

Lockeport Fishing Arrivals

Recent arrivals are the gill netter Pad Locke, Capt. F. Pirih, 3000 mixed fish; (gill netter) L. M. H. Capt. J. Benham, 3800 lbs. mixed fish; Ella M. Rudolph, Capt. C. H. 12,500 lbs. mixed fish, 60 lbs. halibut; Togo, Capt. E. Locke, 6100 lbs. mixed fish; Dolly Gray, Capt. W. McKen- 2900 lbs. mixed fish; Nellie M. Capt. J. McKenzie, 7500 lbs. mixed fish; Julie Opp, Capt. George ham, 20,000 lbs. mixed fish, 70 lbs. halibut; Lulu S., Capt. Geo. H. 11,000 lbs. mixed fish, 30 lbs. halibut; Ohio, Capt. W. Williams, 5000 mixed fish; Alcyone, Capt. F. H. 861 lbs. mixed fish; Velmore, Capt. Colluppy 700 lbs. mixed fish; B. mia, Capt. C. Vanburg, 6000 lbs. mixed fish; Gladys Thornburn, 4170 mixed fish, 32 halibut.

Dec. 26.

A HEAVY GALE RAGES OUTSIDE

Local Fleet Hugging Wharves—One Off-Shore In Since Wednesday

The storm signals and heavy weather outside have kept the gill netting market fleet in port today unless some clearing weather came before Monday, there will be a famine in the fish market.

On account of Wednesday's gale all the gill netters with one exception were driven back. Steamer and Edwin, Capt. Jerry Cook, and brought in 5900 pounds of pollock.

Yesterday being Christmas, all the boats remained in. Few of them were out, however, so less than 25,000 pounds. The steamer in addition to her fare, had a load which weighed 250 pounds.

The only off shore sailing since Wednesday is sch. Meteor, from the Bay of St. Fogarty, from the Bay of St. with salt and pickled herring. The craft made the passage in 12 days and is consigned to the German Fisheries Company.

Today's Arrivals and Receipts

The arrivals and receipts are: Str. R. J. Killick, gill netting, 1000 lbs. fresh fish. Str. Water Witch, gill netting, 1000 lbs. fresh fish. Str. Enterprise, gill netting, 1000 lbs. fresh fish. Str. Nomad, gill netting, 1000 lbs. fresh fish, 1 shark. Str. Mary F. Ruth, gill netting, 1000 lbs. fresh fish. Str. Elsie, via Boston. Sch. Frances P. Mesquite, 1000 lbs. fresh fish. Sch. Meteor, Bay of Islands, 545 bbls. salt herring, 478 lbs. pickled herring. Wednesday's Gill Netting Str. Robert and Edwin, 5900 lbs. fresh fish.

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LUNENBURG TO INCREASE FLEET

Several cargoes are reported in Lunenburg at about \$7 for cod and \$50 for hake, says the Halifax Free Merchant. It is said that there are now not more than five cargoes unsold in that country. At the same time there are no buyers in sight at such prices owing to the serious depression which has taken place in the European market. However, the expectation is that the foregoing prices will be obtained, as exporters must be quick to keep their trade supported, even though they need to hand out at a loss.

Sch. Esperanto arrived at Shelburne Saturday last and cleared.

The position of the wreck is lat. 42 degrees 00 minutes 35 seconds N, lon. 70 degrees 1 minute 25 seconds W. The government has cautioned the owners and skippers of small boats not to hug the shore too closely in the vicinity of the obstruction. The Jason carried a crew of 27 men and all were drowned with the exception of an apprentice.

Fish are so plentiful in Alaskan waters that they almost jump at you. The fishing grounds extend for over 2000 miles along the coast and up all the rivers (one of which is at least 2000 miles long), and all over the adjacent seas. A conservative estimate of the fish taken from Alaskan waters, not counting that used for native food and for dog food, places the total valuation at \$185,000,000 since we bought Alaska for \$7,200,000. In one year 10 fishing vessels alone pulled in 7,708,000 pounds of the choicest kind of fish. If the ordinary American were asked to guess how many people are permanently engaged in the fishing business in Alaska, the answer would probably be—about 200. As a matter of fact there are 18,000 men pulling up salmon, halibut and herring and storing them away in cans and ice houses. That number of men can make a big hole in anybody's fish pond; if the looting by the fishermen goes on indefinitely, there will be nothing left except the water presently.—Leslie's.